12 & 13 December 2026 · Moana Pool, Dunedin

MEET INFORMATION

The Otago Long Course Championships are open to all eligible Swimming NZ members and international athletes who meet the entry criteria. By participating in these championships, you are acknowledging and agreeing to the importance of the following guidelines:

- comply with the Sports Anti-Doping rules,
- allow photographs, video, multimedia, or film likenesses taken by accredited photographers to be used for any legitimate purpose by Swimming Otago or others that Swimming Otago has approved

As the event organiser, Swimming Otago is committed to ensuring a smooth and fair competition. We reserve the right to restrict entries to maintain the event timeline and secure the necessary number of Technical Officials. The pool deck is strictly for accredited personnel and event volunteers during the competition; all other individuals are expected to be seated in their designated area in the Grandstand. Non-compliance with these rules may disrupt the event, and we trust in your understanding and cooperation. As always, pool access is free and via the front entrance.

This document may be amended, so check the event page to ensure you have the latest version.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

At the Otago Long Course Championships, your safety is our top priority. We kindly ask you to be cautious in the Grandstand, as it can get very slippery. To minimise the risk of injury, all athletes are required to dry off before using the corridors behind the stands. Athletes are not permitted in the reception area in swimwear; athletes must be dressed, including shoes. Stairwells, fire exits, and clearways are always to remain clear. No seating is allowed on the bottom row of seats in the Grandstand, as this is a clearway. Your adherence to these safety measures is crucial for a successful and enjoyable event.

Athletes under 10 must wear a yellow band, which will be issued at the manager meeting. Bands can be removed while racing; however, they must be worn at all other times. Athletes may make their way to the marshalling, then to the start blocks, and at the finish of their race, make their way back to their grandstand seats. Bands are to be returned to reception prior to exiting the facility.

Medical conditions: If a swimmer has a long-term medical condition, excluding musculoskeletal overuse injuries, that could be affected by the exertion of racing, the team manager must notify the technical director prior to the start of racing, along with the team's plan to manage any deterioration of that condition.

Only essential personnel, Technical Officials, Timekeepers, and Event Volunteers are allowed on the pool deck during the competition. Coaches are to always remain in their designated area.

If the pool requires evacuation, Moana Pool staff will guide you. Remain calm and follow their instructions.

TECHNICAL OFFICIALS, TIMEKEEPERS AND VOLUNTEERS

- Swimming Otago will endeavour to obtain the necessary number of technical officials. Still, the number on the pool deck may be more or less than the requirement set out in the Swimming NZ approval criteria.
- Indicate your availability by completing the **Duty Form** by Sunday, 6 December at 8:00pm.
- A meeting will be held 15 minutes before each session. Don't forget to bring a water bottle and sunglasses.

COACH AND TEAM MANAGER

- Coach and Team Manager forms must be completed on the Swimming NZ Database by Friday, 11 December.
- All Coaches and Team Managers must have a current police vet that is visible on their Swimming NZ profile.
- A meeting will be held 30 minutes before the start of session 1 - at least one club representative must be present.

ENTRY ELIGIBILITY AND CRITERIA

- The age as of date will be calculated on 12 December 2025.
  - Athletes are not permitted to 'swim up' an age group.
  - Age Groups at these championships are 10 years & under, 11 years, 12 years, 13 years, 14 years, 15 years, and 16 years & over.
  - Age grouping for multi-class athletes is open, mixed gender, multi-class.
- The qualifying period is from 1 January 2025 to 2 December 2026.
  - The qualifying times are 50m long course times; however, converted times will be accepted.
  - Only results recorded in the Swimming NZ database will be accepted; however, split times will not.
  - Athletes can only enter the events that they have qualified for.
- **Multi-class athletes** are not required to meet the qualifying times but must have recorded an eligible entry time obtained within the qualifying period; no time (NT) will not be accepted.
- **Relay athletes** must have entered at least one individual event to be eligible to compete in a relay team.
  - Mixed relay teams must consist of 2 male & 2 female athletes who are registered with the same club.

ENTRY DETAILS

Individual Entry Fee per event	$13.75	Closes Thursday, 3 December, at 11:59pm
Relay Entry Fee, per team	$20.00	Closes Friday, 4 December, at 11:59pm
Swimming Otago Athlete Surcharge Fee per athlete	$11.00 non-refundable	

- Completed entries constitute acceptance of the conditions and rules outlined in the competition documents.
- All entries must be completed online through **Fast Lane** or the Swimming NZ Database, except for international and multi-class athletes who are to contact Swimming Otago.
- **Late entries** are dependent on lane availability and must be received prior to the publication of the Meet Programme, at a cost of $27.50 per event plus the athlete surcharge.
- Swimming Otago will invoice clubs for any outstanding fees once the final Psych Sheets have been published.
- There will be **no refunds** for any withdrawals after the publication of the final Psych Sheets. However, consideration may be given when a signed medical certificate is provided before the commencement of the competition.

INTERNATIONAL AND MULTI-CLASS ATHLETES

- Entries are to be emailed to **admin@swimotago.org** and must include
  - athlete's name, date of birth, and affiliated club
  - Meet Manager ID number or Swimming NZ membership number
  - event name or event number
  - valid entry time that is accessible in the Swimming NZ Results database
  - Clearance Letter (international athletes only)

DRAFT ENTRY REPORTS

After individual entries close, an email will be sent to all participants and their affiliated clubs. Please carefully check the reports in the email and let Swimming Otago know of any discrepancies by **8:00pm on Sunday, 6 December**. The final reports will be published on the event page the following day.

ZENITH JUBILEE TROPHY AND FESTIVAL CUP

The Zenith Jubilee Trophy and Festival Cup have been a staple at these championships, bringing together Otago's fastest athletes across the different strokes in one race – a head-to-head showdown! These events are exclusively open to athletes affiliated with Swimming Otago. The fastest two athletes, male and female, from each 100m individual stroke are selected. Selection is based on the event schedule, with priority given to athletes 16 years & older, descending by age group. Once an athlete is chosen for one stroke, they're out of the running for the others - for example, the two best in the 100m Backstroke won't be considered for any other stroke, no matter how fast they are. The athletes start with a handicap based on the time achieved in their selection event. **Athletes who do not wish to be selected must notify the Recorder by the end of Session 3**. The provisional list of qualifiers will be posted on the Results wall after Session 3, but the suspense builds until Session 4, when the 100m Butterfly decides the final four spots.

CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

The Otago Long Course Championships will be delivered under Swimming NZ rules, regulations, policies, and the exceptions contained in the competition documents:

- Events will be swum as timed finals, single gender, multi-age groups, and seeded slowest to fastest unless indicated otherwise on the event schedule.
- Over-the-top starts may be applied to individual events.
- Electronic Timing (touch pads & button backups) will be used at these championships with at least one timekeeper per lane.

MULTI CLASS ATHLETES

Will be seeded amongst their able-bodied peers based on entry times and judged according to the World Para Swimming Rules and Regulations (WPS) for the entirety of these championships.

WITHDRAWALS

- For all sessions, the Recorder must be notified of a withdrawal no later than 30 minutes before the start of the session in which the event will be swum.
    - Withdrawals submitted after this time will be subject to a Withdrawal Fee of $50.00. Under no circumstances will exceptions be granted.

PROTESTS

- The Team Manager must submit a completed Protest Form to the Referee within 30 minutes following the conclusion of the respective event, which must be accompanied by a $50.00 protest fee (in cash).
- If conditions causing a potential protest are noted before the event, a protest must be lodged before the start signal.
- The Referee shall consider all protests.
    - If the Referee rejects the protest, they must state the reasons for their decision.
    - The club Team Manager may appeal the rejection to the Jury of Appeals, whose decision shall be final.
- If the protest is rejected, the deposit will be forfeited to Swimming Otago; however, if the protest is upheld, the deposit will be returned.

WARMUP PROCEDURE

- Warmup commences forty-five minutes before each session and is to be conducted under the consultation and guidance of all coaches.
- Lane 8 is reserved for multi-class athletes and those 9 years & under only, when applicable.
- Backstroke Start devices will be available during each warm-up period.
- During racing, lanes 1 and 2 will be available in the dive/lap pool for warm-up and warm-down.

MARSHALLING

Marshalling depends on, and is therefore subject to, volunteer availability. Team Managers will be updated at the meeting.

VICTORY CEREMONIES

Ceremonies depend on, and are therefore subject to, volunteer availability. An update will be provided at the Team Managers' meeting.

REWARDS AND POINTS

- Medals, ribbons, and points will not be awarded to athletes who do not achieve the qualifying time.
- Certificates for the winners of the various Trophies and Cups offered at these Championships will be presented to the recipients. The eligibility and criteria can be viewed **here.**

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

- Medals will be awarded to the first three placegetters, and ribbons for placings four to eight, in each event across age groups, except for multi-class athletes, as outlined below.

RELAY EVENTS

- Ribbons will be awarded to the first three placegetters across each event.

MULTI-CLASS ATHLETES

- Medals will be awarded to the first three placegetters and ribbons for placings four through eight for the 50m and 100m Backstroke, Breaststroke, Freestyle, Butterfly, and 200m Individual Medley events.
    - Placings will be determined by the percentage comparison between the times swum and the Para World Record for each classification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

DISQUALIFICATIONS

Announcements are reliant on, and therefore subject to, volunteer availability. Team Managers are to bring their devices to the Recorder's office to take photos of their athlete's Disqualification form, as copies will not be provided.

MEET PROGRAMME

No Programmes will be available at the competition; download or print your own to bring with you. The Meet Programme will be published on the event page on the Thursday before the competition starts.

RESULTS

The results will be posted on the glass windows at the pool deck exit closest to the deep end of the main pool. Meet Mobile will be activated during this competition. Session results will be published on the event page at the end of each session.

SEATING PLAN

There will be no seating plan for these championships as there is sufficient Grandstand seating for everyone. Coaches may use the designated coaching area on the pool deck; however, athletes and managers must not linger, sit or stand within this area during competition sessions.

TIMELINES

Timelines will be included in the Meet Programme; however, be aware that these times are approximate and races may start before or after the indicated times.